

POST SHORTS

Recycling schedule



The recycling scheduled pickup for Wednesday, March 31, is paper. Put items in paper bags, boxes or bundles and place them on the curb.

RAB meeting tonight

The Installation Restoration Program will hold its monthly Restoration Advisory Board meeting 7 to 9:45 p.m., March 25, at the Edgewood Senior Center on Gateway Road.

The topics will include updates on the J-Field and Canal Creek Study Areas and the Munitions Assessment and Processing System.

Board meetings are open to the public. All APG employees and citizens are invited.

For more information, call the Information Line at 410-272-8842 or 1-800-APG-9998.

ATC holds public meeting March 27

The U.S. Army Aberdeen Test Center will hold an information meeting for the public regarding training exercises that will take place at its Churchillville Test Course. The meeting will take place 9 to 10 a.m., March 27, at the Churchillville Test Course, 775 Priestford Road, Churchillville.

Training will begin in early April and may continue infrequently thereafter.

Training will take place on the north side of the course and may include day and night operations and small arms fire using blank ammunition.

For more information, call 410-278-1147 or 410-278-1153.

AER Campaign

The 2004 Army Emergency Relief campaign is scheduled to run through May 15.

The 2004 AER Campaign coordinator is Maj. Anissa M. McNeill and the assistant campaign coordinator is Sgt. 1st Class Lisa R. Flecha. They can be reached at 410-278-2104.

Hydrant flushing continues

Fire hydrant flushing in the Aberdeen and Edgewood areas of Aberdeen Proving Ground started during March and will continue into April.

The City of Aberdeen, owners of the Aberdeen Area water distribution utility system, will perform the fire hydrant flushing between the hours of 4 p.m. and midnight. Signs will be posted at the Family

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Central Issue Facility opens

APG celebrates Month of the Child

Laura Reich
ACS

A children's parade, an egg hunt extravaganza, and a spring fling are a few of the events scheduled by Army Community Service, Child Youth Services, and the Aberdeen Proving Ground Post Chapel to celebrate April as Month of the Child and Child Abuse Prevention Month.

"April is a very important and exciting month at APG, a time to celebrate one of our most treasured gifts, our children," said Celestine Beckett, director of ACS. "Army Community Service has developed a month-long calendar of these great activities, including interesting classes and workshops, for everyone in the APG family."

On April 2, a children's

parade will kick off the celebration at the Aberdeen Child Development Center at approximately 9 a.m. The "Our Children Are Our Future" parade will begin after the tying of the blue awareness ribbon onto an APG Police vehicle. The children will display decorated sun visors as well as banners and posters they will create.

The Edgewood Child Development Center will host another parade later in the month of April.

Along with celebrating the month of the child and child abuse prevention month, APG will recognize National Youth Violence Prevention week, March 29 through April 2.

Army Community Service will partner with CYC during this week-long national education initiative, sponsoring various

activities to demonstrate the positive role young people can have in making their schools and communities safer.

The National Association of Students Against Violence Everywhere, or S.A.V.E., and The Guidance Channel are the founding partners of the National Youth Violence Prevention Campaign.

Their goal is to raise awareness and to educate students, teachers, school administrators, counselors, school resource officers, school staff, parents, and the public on effective ways to prevent or reduce youth violence.

Both youth centers will provide daily workshops focusing on a specific violence prevention strategy. Workshop topics will include promoting respect and tolerance, anger management,



Photo by DIANA HAYES

Anthony McCarthy, left, son of Sgt. Carolyn McCarthy, 16th Ordnance Battalion, Company A, and Riley-Jean Harvin, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Samuel Harvin, military recruiter, listen to a story told by Aberdeen Child Development Center Care Provider Haley Johnson.

ment, resolving conflicts peacefully, supporting safety and uniting in action.

For more information, visit Army Community Service, building 2754 or call 410-278-7478.

DFAS announces retroactive civilian pay raise processing plan

DFAS

Since March 13, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service began processing the retroactive pay increase for federal general schedule employees directed by the Executive Order signed by President George W. Bush on March 3. The retroactive pay increase was effective Jan. 11.

As the personnel actions authorizing the increase are received from the responsible civilian personnel offices,

DFAS will process the retroactive pay increases during its routine nightly civilian pay system personnel updates.

Processing of the retroactive pay increase for several specific groups of federal employees paid by DFAS will proceed according to the schedule below. This schedule is contingent upon DFAS having received and successfully processed the civilian personnel actions.

Pay period ending March 20 was scheduled for whole groups including the

Executive Office of the President, overseas employees paid on the second Thursday payday, overseas employees paid on the first Friday payday, Navy shipyard employees and most other Defense agencies.

Pay period ending April 3 is scheduled to include the Department of Energy.

Three split groups, comprised primarily of Army, Air Force and Navy employees, will be processed over the course of two pay periods, due to the large number of employees in each of these databases.

Approximately one half of the employees in these groups will be processed during each of the two pay periods.

In order to conduct these large pay system updates in a reliable manner, specific agencies and major commands within those agencies have been selected for processing each pay period.

All employees within the major commands selected will be processed during the specified pay period, provided that the DFAS civilian pay system has received and successfully

processed the employees' personnel actions.

Employees in these three groups can expect to see the retroactive adjustments according to the schedule described below.

The following Army state-side employees should expect to see the pay adjustments for pay period ending March 20 - Army Corps of Engineers, National Guard Units, Army Medical Command and the Army Training and Doctrine

See PAY, page 10

Garrison commander signs FOP union agreement

Meghan Bowen
APG News

A negotiated union agreement was signed March 15 by Col. Mardi U. Mark, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, and DoD officer George Martin, president of the Fraternal Order of Police.

The document laid out procedures and regulations for the APG civilian police officers who work in the garrison's Directorate of Law Enforcement and Security.

"The negotiated agreement spells out procedures, in many areas, by defining management, union and employee rights, and defines the use of official time and procedures for requesting time," said Lynn Bryant, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center human resources specialist.

The key factors of the agreement were officer safety and training. Martin said there was only one pending issue, which he would rather not discuss in lieu of future talks that cannot be negotiated until this union contract is up in three years.

The negotiation process went well because of the amiable work relationship and combined efforts of the DLES with the garrison and the FOP, said Bryant.

"We have a good working relationship," Mark said of the negotiations team. "When the chief of staff calls our men to duty overseas, we rely very heavily on law enforcement to provide its services to the post."

Kenneth Masoner, deputy provost marshal, DLES, commented on the negotiation team's effort.

"We're all here for the same reason, to provide quality law enforcement to Aberdeen Proving Ground," he said.

The negotiation talks also paved the way for future resolutions if needed. "We also agreed to form an official special

See FOP, page 12



Photo by YVONNE JOHNSON

Col. Mardi U. Mark, Aberdeen Proving Ground Garrison and deputy installation commander, signs FOP union agreement as Department of Defense police officers George Martin, Kevin Forster and John Lacotti look on.

New clinic call center eases appointment procedures

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has installed a new call center system that will simplify the appointment-setting process for customers.

The goal is to increase access to KUSAHC's primary care appointments according to Dave Bish, Access Claim Agent.

"Now customers have only one number to remember no matter what their need is," Bish said.

By dialing 410-278-KIRK (5475) locally, or 866-756-5475 from outside areas, customers will receive an automated response and speak with a call center operator within seconds. The call center became operational last week.

He said that the system, which is similar to the one used by Walter Reed Army Medical Center, will speed up the clinics and provide health care providers more time for their patients.

"It's for all Kirk in-house clinics, for TRICARE information and for pharmacy refills. A one-stop shop," Bish said, adding the service is open to anyone eligible to use the facility.

The call center operating hours are Monday through Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

An automated greeting will direct customers to call 911 in the event of an emergency. In addition, operators have the capability to change the automated greeting to inform customers of clinic closings for training holidays, snow and

See CENTER, page 12



Appointing agent Michelle Hall responds to a customer request in the Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic's new Call Center. The automated system is modeled after the one used by Walter Reed Army Medical Center.



Family Corner—Enriching the military life



Photo by NORMA WARWICK

Deneshia Barnes spends time in the arts and crafts room at Aberdeen Youth Center. She enjoys fusing beads together to make unique art forms. Her father is serving in Korea and her mother, Shaunta, works for Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center.



Photo by LAURA REICH

Donte Simon, son of Sgt. Bridget Graham, Edgewood Dental Clinic, plays air hockey at the Aberdeen Youth Center.



Photo by DIANA HAYES

Michael Zamudio, left, son of Sgt. Juan Zamudio, HHC, 16th Ordnance Battalion, Brandon Winkler, son of Michelle Mong, civilian employee, and Garrett Gulley, son of Thea Sarver, AAFES PX manager, play outside on the Aberdeen Child Development Center playground March 18.



Photo by DIANA HAYES

Rhett Johnson, son of Sgt. Jeremiah Johnson, Marine Corps II Station, Wilmington, Del., and Haley Johnson, AA CDC childcare provider, plays peekaboo through the look out bubble on the playground at the Aberdeen CDC.



Photo by NORMA WARWICK

Brandon Hilliard, left, son of Sgt. 1st Class Alan Hilliard, 16th Ordnance Battalion, and Richard Stafford, son of Richard Stafford, APG AAFES, and Sgt. Deborah Stafford, KUSAHC, practice for the foosball championship during a visit to the Aberdeen Youth Center.

ACS events for Month of the Child at APG

VARIED DATES
CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION INFORMATION BOOTHS

11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

April 1, 15, AA Post Exchange

April 2, 14, EA Shoppette

April 6, 20, AA Commissary

FRIDAY
APRIL 2
OUR CHILDREN ARE OUR FUTURE PARADE

Parade will be held 9 to 10 a.m. at the Aberdeen Child Development Center. For more information, call Diana Hayes, PACT coordinator, 410-278-4372.

MONDAYS
APRIL 5 THRU
APRIL 26
PARENTING YOUNG CHILDREN CLASSES

This class is for parents with children from birth to 5 years. Classes will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the AA ACS building 2754. For more

information, call Diana Hayes, PACT coordinator, 410-278-4372.

MONDAY
APRIL 5
BREASTFEEDING AND RETURNING TO WORK

Class will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Diana Hayes, PACT coordinator, 410-278-4372.

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 7
MONEY MATTERS: PARENTS TEACHING KIDS

Class will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Arcelio Alleyne, Financial Readiness Program manager, 410-278-2450.

THURSDAY
APRIL 8
MEDIA VIOLENCE AND CHILDREN

Class will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at EA ACS building E-

4630. For more information, call Laura Reich, Family Advocacy Program prevention specialist, 410-278-7478.



SATURDAY
APRIL 10
EGG HUNT EXTRAVAGANZA

The hunt will be held 1 to 4 p.m. at the APG Post Chapel. Free tickets are available through AA and EA ACS. For more information, call Cheryl Harris, Relocation Assistance Program specialist, 410-278-7474.

MONDAY
APRIL 12
STRENGTHENING YOUR BLENDED FAMILY

Class will be held 6 to 8 p.m. at AA ACS building

2754. For more information, call Donna Mele, Family Advocacy Program manager, 410-278-2464.

TUESDAY
APRIL 13
EFMP PARENT INFORMATION EXCHANGE DINNER

Dinner will be held 6 to 8 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Reeshemah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program manager, 410-278-2420.

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 14
SHADES OF AUTISM

Class will be held 6 to 8 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Reeshemah Bugg, Exceptional Family Member Program manager, 410-278-2420.

WEDNESDAY
APRIL 21
A GUIDE FOR TEENS:

BEING WISE ABOUT MONEY

Class will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Arcelio Alleyne, Financial Readiness Program manager, 410-278-2450.

THURSDAY
APRIL 22
SAFE-GUARDING OUR COMMUNITIES WORKSHOP

Workshop will be held 6 to 8 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Laura Reich, Family Advocacy Program prevention specialist, 410-278-7478.

SATURDAY
APRIL 24
CHILD AND YOUTH SERVICE SPRING FLING

Event will be held 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Edgewood Youth Service building E-1902. ACS will host an information booth with activities for children at the Spring Fling.

For more information, call Diana Hayes, PACT coordinator, 410-278-4372.

MONDAY
APRIL 26
PEACEFUL STEPS TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION FOR TEENS

Class will be held 6 to 7 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Laura Reich, Family Advocacy Program prevention specialist, 410-278-7478.

THURSDAY
APRIL 29
DEALING WITH FAMILY STRESS

Class will be held 6 to 7 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Laura Reich, Family Advocacy Program prevention specialist, 410-278-7478.

MEDIA VIOLENCE AND CHILDREN

Class will be held 6 to 7:30 p.m. at AA ACS building 2754. For more information, call Laura Reich, Family Advocacy Program prevention specialist 410-278-7478.

APG News

The APG News, a civilian enterprise newspaper, is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the APG News are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the U.S. Army Garrison, Aberdeen Proving Ground. The newspaper is published weekly by the APG Public Affairs Office, ATTN: AMSSB-GIM-P, APG, MD 21005-5001, 410-278-1150. Printed circulation is 8,900.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital status, physical handicap, political affiliation or any other nonmerit factor of the purchaser, user or patron. If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer shall refuse to print advertising from that source.

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MCSC offers scholarships

Applications accepted until April 1

Katie McDonald
MCSC

The APG Military and Civilian Spouses' Club is taking applications for higher education scholarships from the Aberdeen Proving Ground community until April 1.

With higher education costs escalating - a four-year degree currently ranging from \$50,000 to \$180,000 or more - information on scholarships and grants is of increasing importance.

Although the club's annual scholarships are only open to members and their immediate families, APG community members with educational expenses on the horizon still have time to join MCSC. The cost of a half-year membership is \$7.50.

The club is accepting applications from students pursuing full-time studies at accredited four-year colleges and universities and for individuals pursuing part-time continuing education, technical and certificate programs for career enhancement.

In addition to the MCSC Scholarship program, the club also administers the

First Command Educational Foundation, which offers a \$1,000 scholarship.

To be eligible for this scholarship high-school seniors and continuing undergraduate students must be dependents of active duty, retired or deceased military personnel.

The dependents of active duty reservists and national guardsmen may also apply, however, they must provide documentation that the military reservist or national guardsman is presently serving on active duty by including a copy of military orders with the First Command application.

Last year, the MCSC awarded \$1,900 in scholarships. The club also awarded \$5,000 in welfare grants to military and local organizations.

Applications are available on the MCSC Web site, www.apgmcsc.org.

For more information about MCSC scholarships, call Mindy Sigler, 410-612-0185.

To find out more about MCSC membership, call Lisa Panozzo, 410-676-6995, or visit Web site www.apgmcsc.org.

ACS program seeks to help special needs family members



Photo by HAROLD FRANCIS
Donavan Francis, 7, son of Sgt. 1st Class Harold Francis and Cheryl, cruises through Patriot Village on his Rustler tricycle.

ACS

The Exceptional Family Member Program is designed to sustain special needs family members if permanently reassigned to a new duty station. The program ensures that an exceptional family member is not moved to a location lacking necessary medical facilities or resources.

EFMP is a mandatory program under Army Regulation 608-75 which works with other military and civilian agencies designed to provide a comprehensive, coordinated, multi-agency approach for community support, housing, medical, educational, and personal services to families with special needs.

An exceptional family member is a family member, child or adult, with any physical, emotional, developmental, or intellectual special need that requires special treatment, therapy, education, training, or counseling. The service member must be the sponsor of the exceptional family member to be enrolled.

Examples of special needs

- Asthma
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder
- Depression
- Arthritis
- Learning disabilities
- Developmental delays
- Autism
- Cerebral Palsy
- Mental disorders

Army Community Service and Kirk U.S. Army Health Clinic has a shared responsibility to meet the needs of all exceptional family members. Those needing to medically enroll in the program should contact Karen Reed, chief, Patient Administration Division, at 410-278-1720. Reed will assist during the assessment and enrollment process.

“Service members are

strongly encouraged to attend the Preparation Overseas Reassignment levy briefings,” Reed said. “When a service member requests command sponsorship, they need to see me immediately because all family members will need to be screened with a physical before leaving for an “Outside the Continental United States, or OCONUS, assignment.”

For educational enrollment in the program, contact Reeshemah Bugg, ACS EFMP coordinator, at 410-278-2420.

Special education needs are considered in OCONUS assignments.

“Assignments within our 50 States are not based on the educational needs of children,” said Bugg. “Every local school system must obey public laws regarding the provision of special education.”

Educational services offered through ACS

- Enrollment assistance
- Client advocacy
- Health education and workshops
- Early intervention referrals
- Relocation assistance
- Specialized child care
- Community support
- Support group (Parent Information Exchange)
- Service coordination for individualized education plans
- Recreation activities

Enrolling in the EFMP allows the assignment managers to consider the documented medical and special education needs of exceptional family members in the assignment process.

When possible, service members are assigned to an area dependent upon a valid personnel requirement for the service member’s grade, specialty and eligibility for the tour.

All service members are still eligible for worldwide assignments.

Enrollment is valid for three

years and should be updated prior to anniversary, or if there is a change in the family member’s condition. A service member can disenroll from the program based on change in military status, marital status or death.

“The EFMP is intended to give service members the opportunity to have family needs met as well as the branch of service’s mission,” Bugg said. “But the decision whether or not to take an overseas assignment rests with the service member and his or her family. Every family has different priorities and different coping skills.”

Misconceptions

“I will be forced into assignments that will hinder promotions and career opportunities.”

Enrollment cannot influence advancement or career opportunities of sponsors. The sponsor has the option of accepting an assignment while the family is supported in another location.

“As an EFMP sponsor, I cannot be deployed.”

The program has no impact on the deployment responsibilities of the sponsor. Overseas unaccompanied, unit deployments and standard deployments must be carried out without interruption.

“Enrollment in the program will allow me to select a duty station.”

The program ensures that the sponsor will be assigned to a location where appropriate services exist. When the monitor’s “first pick” assignment is not suitable for the sponsor’s family, the EFMP Manager at Headquarters will examine the most recent case information and determine the best assignment based on the needs of the branch of service, the sponsor’s career pattern and the special needs of the family.

“I will be not be eligible for an overseas accompanied assignment as an EFMP sponsor.”

Overseas screening is the same for all families anticipating accompanied orders if the special need of the family member can be met by the receiving location. If the spe-

cial needs of the family member can be met by receiving location, an accompanied assignment may be authorized.

“Accepting preferential treatment from the program indicated an inability to carry out my responsibilities.”

The program only prescribes an agreed upon and systematic manner to communicate special needs when a random assignment is not suitable for the service member.

For more information, call Bugg at 410-278-2420, or visit ACS, building 2754

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ENHANCE

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Community Notes

MOVIES

**ADMISSION: ADULTS \$3, CHILDREN \$1.50,
building 3245 Aberdeen Boulevard.
To verify listing, call 410-272-7520.**



AGAINST THE ROPES
Friday, March 26, 7 p.m.
Saturday, March 27, 9 p.m.
Starring: Meg Ryan, Omar Epps

A fictional story inspired by North America's most famous female boxing promoter, Jackie Kallen (Ryan), a Jewish woman from Detroit, became a boxing manager, guiding several major careers. The film focuses on her relationship with one boxer (Epps), who's reportedly a composite of several including Toney, McKart and Hearn. Kallen eventually leaves her husband of 30 years, and moved to Los Angeles, becoming the commissioner of the International Female Boxers Association. (Rated PG-13)

friends, robs the state-of-the-art bank where her mother works to acquire the cash needed for a costly operation to save her dying father. During the heist, the kids overcome high-tech security systems, guard dogs, and a nasty head of security to get to a bank vault suspended 100-feet above ground. (Rated PG)



MIRACLE (FREE ADMISSION)
Saturday, March 27, 7 p.m.
Starring: Kurt Russell, Patricia Clarkson

Based on the true story of the 1980 Winter Olympics, the United States Ice Hockey team's coach, Herb Brooks, took a ragtag squad of college kids up against the legendary juggernaut from the Soviet Union. With the world watching, the team rose to the occasion, prompting broadcaster Al Michaels' now famous question, to the millions viewing at home: Do you believe in miracles? Yes!





(Rated PG)



CATCH THAT KID (FREE ADMISSION)
Saturday, March 27, 1 p.m.
Starring: Kristen Stewart, Corbin Bleu

They're on a mission without permission. The action-packed caper revolves around a 12-year old girl who, with the help of two

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THURSDAY MARCH 25 FREE HOME SELLING SEMINAR

This seminar will be offered 6 to 7:30 p.m. by Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 23 Newport Drive, Forest Hill. Topics include reasons for selling, market analysis, costs of selling a home, for sale by owner, showing a home, negotiating and home inspections. To reserve a space, call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555, ext. 5451.

WOMEN BUILD ORIENTATION

Planning is underway for Harford Habitat's second Women Build in Harford County.

Help is needed in fundraising, volunteer coordination, publicity, and construction (skilled and unskilled workers). A volunteer orientation will be held 7 p.m., at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, 1200 Churchville Road, Bel Air, that will include the safety training required for on-site workers.

For more information, contact Annabel Lusardi at 410-692-0292 or e-mail .

SATURDAY MARCH 27 ORIOLES SIGNING UP BALLGIRLS AND BOYS

The Baltimore Orioles are looking to sign up outgoing and athletically fit individuals with baseball or softball experience ages 18 and older interested in serving as ballboys and ballgirls for the entire 2004 season at Camden Yards. All registrants must be at the ballpark at 10 a.m. Bring your own glove, dress casual, and enter through the Home Plate Plaza entrance on the southwestern corner of the ballpark. Complimentary parking is available in Lot A. For further information, call 410-547-6278.

MARSH CLEAN UP

The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is sponsoring the 13th Annual Marsh Clean Up 9 a.m. to noon for ages 14 to adult, or 10 to 13 with an adult.

Join the Izaak Walton League of America, Harford County Chapter, for their annual spring marsh clean-up. Wear boots, gloves, and bring a trash bag.

Adult leaders are needed. Great opportunity for scout troops and school community service hours credit. Troops are welcome to sign up as a group.

Rain or shine. Reservations are required and space is limited. For more information, directions, or to make a reservation, call the Estuary Center at 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 extension 1688.

THIRTY AND OVER NIGHT

Charlton-Miller, VFW Post 6054, 206 Spesutia Road, Aberdeen, will host a 30 and Over Night, 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Cost of donation is \$5. Dress to impress, no athletic wear allowed. Proper ID is required. For more information, call 410-272-3444.

SUNDAY MARCH 28 WEAVING A NEST

The Anita C. Leight Estuary Center is sponsoring Weaving a Wren's Nest 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. for ages 14 to adult. Join a naturalist to learn how to weave a wren's nest. The fee for this program is \$10. Reservations are required and space is limited. For more information, directions, or to make a reservation, call the Estuary Center at 410-612-1688 or 410-879-2000 extension 1688.

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Use the equity in your home for remodeling expenses, debt consolidation, education, or even that much-needed vacation — whatever you want or need. Plus the interest you pay with our home equity lines or loans may be 100% tax deductible for even greater savings over other types of consumer loans. Consult your tax advisor for details.

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* APR - Annual Percentage Rate. Refinancing options available. Rates are in effect March 15, 2004 and subject to change. Rates are based on a review of each applicant's credit. Rate highlighted is for line of credit, and variable rate option, and may increase after consumation.

**No
Closing
Costs!**

**%
APR***



Post Shorts

From front page
Housing Areas while flushing is being performed.
The Directorate of Installation Operations will flush the fire hydrants in the Edgewood Area of APG between 3 and 7 a.m.
Should a resident's water become discolored during the flushing, turn on all inside water faucets and run the water until it clears up.
For more information, call Hank Selke, City of Aberdeen, 410-272-1449, Linda Kimmel, Aberdeen Area, 410-278-0400, or Ron Gentry, Edgewood Area, 410-436-2196.

CWF softball team forming
The annual Civilian Welfare Fund Adult Softball League is now forming and accepting teams to play in the league, held at the Marylander Softball Field. Existing teams and new teams wishing to sign up should call Jim Swearingen at 410-272-7745.

ARL to host Days of Remembrance
The U.S. Army Research Laboratory will sponsor the annual National Commemoration of the Days of Remembrance, themed "For Justice and Humanity," 10 a.m., April 21, at the Post Theater.
Guest speaker will be Felix Kestenberg, a Holocaust survivor. For more information, call the APG EO Advisor at 410-278-1534.

Volunteer of the Year nominations
The annual Volunteer of the Year ceremony will be held on 7 p.m., Thursday, April 29, at Top of the Bay. The Volunteer of the Year ceremony recognizes exemplary achievement in volunteer service at Aberdeen Proving Ground.
All nominations are for volunteer service on or for APG only.
Organizations and units may submit only two nominations in each of the following five categories: Military (active duty, reserve, national guard), Family Member (19 years of age or older), Retiree (military or civilian), Civilian (APG civilian employees only), and Youth (18 years of age or younger). Service must have been performed any time from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31, 2003.
Nominations and proposed citations must be received at the Army Community Service Volunteer Services Office, building 2754, room 203; faxed to 410-306-2293; or e-mailed by March 25 to marilyn.howard@usag.apg.army.mil.
For more information on the nomination process, call Marilyn Howard, ACS volunteer coordinator at 410-278-9669.

Warrant officers needed
The U.S. Army is looking for highly motivated Soldiers, Marines, Sailors, and Airman to fill its warrant officer ranks. Positions are open in all 45 specialties if applicant qualifies. Applicants with less than 12 years active federal service are encouraged to apply.
For more information and all forms/documents required visit our Web site at www.usarec.army.mil/warrant or call 502-626-0484/0458.

Road closure scheduled for Otto Road
As part of the ongoing construction of the Advance Chemistry Laboratory in the Edgewood Area, the Poole and Kent Company, a contractor for the Baltimore District Corps of Engineers, will be

installing power and communication duct banks across Otto Road.
The work is currently scheduled to occur on the weekend of April 3 and 4.
During this period, Otto Road will be closed between Ricketts Point Road and the southern entrance of building E-4301. Access to E-4301 will not be affected, but the E-3510 temporary parking lot on the south side of Otto Road will be closed during this period.
In advance of the actual road closures, there may be lane closures with flagmen for preparatory work such as saw cutting.
These dates and durations are subject to weather and environmental factors and may slip in both date and duration.
Motorists are requested to use caution and to obey all traffic controls and detours.
For more information, call Jerry Norris, Directorate of Installation Operations, 410-306-1159.

NAF awards ceremony scheduled
The 9th annual Nonappropriated Fund Employee of the Year Awards ceremony will be held at 2 p.m., April 13 at Top of the Bay.
The four categories to be recognized include administrative, trades and crafts, paraprofessional and supervisory. All Aberdeen Proving Ground personnel are invited to attend.
For additional information,

call Jean Futti, 410-278-8993 or Polly Scott, 410-278-8976.

Volunteers needed for hearing research study
Volunteers are needed for a U.S. Army Research Laboratory study on communication in military vehicles.
Paid listeners must be 18 to 40 years old with normal hearing. Participation time is three hours and includes riding in an armored personnel carrier. Each listener will be paid \$20 per hour.
Interested volunteers should contact Paula Henry at 410-278-5848, or e-mail her at phenry@arl.army.mil, or Martha Dennison at 410-278-5918, or e-mail her at mjdennis@arl.army.mil.

Adult American citizenship class
The Army Community Service Relocation Assistance Program will offer a free class for military personnel or family members, preparing to take the Immigration and Naturalization test for American citizenship. The class will run 6 to 7:30 p.m., Fridays, and 10 to 11:30 a.m., Saturdays, April 16 through May 1, at ACS, building 2754 Rodman Road.
Attendees must attend all sessions to receive a Harford Community College certificate for attending a Citizenship class. Seating is limited.
For more information or to register, call Cheryl Harris at

410-278-7474 or stop by ACS, Room 111, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Improving English skills
English for Speakers of Other Languages will be held for those needing a refresher course or for those with little or no English speaking or writing skills.
Free classes will be held 9 to 11:30 a.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays, March 23 through April 13, at Army Community Service, building 2754, Rodman Road.
For more information or to register, call Cheryl Harris at 410-278-7474 or stop by ACS, Room 111, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

HOMEOWNERS: MORTGAGES & DEBT CONSOLIDATION
WE ARE A DIRECT LENDER!
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Urgent news for people who have used WELDING RODS
Scientists report that elevated manganese exposure from welding rod fumes has been associated with Parkinsonism (like Parkinson's disease) and managism. Symptons include shakiness, distorted facial expression, loss of equilibrium, decreased hand agility, difficulty walking, joint pain, loss of short term memory, slurred/slow speech, stiffness in muscles and tremors. If you have experienced any of these problems, call us today toll free at 1-800-THE-EAGLE for a free consultation to evaluate your potential claim. We practice law only in Arizona, but associate with lawyers throughout the U.S.
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Aberdeen Proving Ground Federal Credit Union

Open to everyone who lives, works, worships, volunteers or attends school in Harford or Cecil County.

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Or call 410-272-4000 or 1-800-225-2555 (Option 4)
Aberdeen / Abingdon / APG / Bel Air / Edgewood / Elkton / Havre de Grace

No Car Payment SWEEPSTAKES
Apply for a car loan between March 1 & May 29, 2004 and 1 LUCKY WINNER will win 6 months of Car Payments!

*Certain restrictions may apply. Interest will continue to accrue from date of loan disbursement. Existing APGFCU auto loans are not eligible for refinancing. **AUTO SWEEPSTAKES RULES AND REGULATIONS:** No purchase necessary to enter or win. To enter sweepstakes, Entrants must submit a completed auto loan application to APGFCU. All applications must be received within the Sweepstakes Period. One eligible Entrant ("Winner") will be selected and will have the option to receive their APGFCU car payment made for 6 consecutive months, valued at a maximum of \$600 per month or a cash prize of \$2,000. Winner will be determined by random drawing from all eligible entries received from Entrants held on or about June 1, 2004. Odds of winning will be determined solely by the number of eligible entries received. All decisions by APGFCU regarding the Sweepstakes are final and binding, unless otherwise dictated by applicable law. The winner need not be present to win. No employees or officers, or volunteers or family member or other persons associated with an employee or officer or volunteer of APGFCU shall be eligible to enter. To obtain a copy of the Winner's name, send a request along with a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: APGFCU Sweepstakes, ATTN: Compliance Office, P.O. Box 1176, Aberdeen, MD 21001. Requests must be received no later than July 1st, 2004.

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VACATION: Must be completed by December 15, 2004. Requires a Saturday night stay-over. Fulfillment is subject to hotel availability at the WALT DISNEY WORLD® Resort. Vacation is for the winner and seven (7) guests of the winner's choosing. Vacation components may not be sold, traded, transferred or rescheduled. Certain blackout dates and restrictions may apply. Photos must be submitted by 3/31/04. See www.wirelesszone.com or store for details. **IMPORTANT CONSUMER INFORMATION: Nights Mon.-Fri. 9:01pm-5:59am; weekends Sat. 12am-Sun. 11:59pm. Taxes & surcharges apply and may vary. Federal Universal Service Charge of 1.88% (varies quarterly based on FCC rate) and a 5c Regulatory Charge per line/month are our charges, not taxes. Subject to Service Agreement & Calling Plan. Activation fee of \$35 on 12-month agreement. Early termination fee up to \$175. Requires credit approval. Cannot combine with other offers. Usage rounded to next full minute. Unused allowances lost. Subject to taxes & other charges. See calling plan. Allow 10-12 weeks for rebate check. For rebate, must be a customer for 30 consecutive days. Phone may not be returned after rebate is submitted Valid through 3/31/04. Not responsible for typographical errors.**

22943

Fact of the week
To reduce solid waste, take reusable shopping bags to the grocery store.
APG Pollution Prevention Program



Morale, Welfare & Recreation

Activities

MWR has a very exciting and entertaining year planned for APG. Some things to look for include the Miller	Lite Army Concert Tour presenting Montgomery Gentry on July 17, and lots more.	To learn more, visit http://www.apgmwr.com . for the latest information.
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Methods of registration

Register for any MWR event by visiting the specific facility for the event, mailing in a registration form found in an MWR Program Brochure, visiting MWR Registration, building 3326, or visiting online at www.apgmwr.com.

Tour Niagara Falls

This tour to Canada, April 26 through 30, includes four nights lodging in Niagara Falls, four breakfasts, four dinners, all-day tour of Niagara including Niagara-on-the-Lake, tour Toronto and local wineries, visits to Welland Canal and the beautiful Floral Clock. Tall taxes, gratuities, luggage handling, and motor-coach transportation is included. Register by March 26. Cost is \$405 for doubles and \$504 for singles. Bus will depart 7:15 a.m. on April 26 and return 10 p.m. on April 30 from Vitali's Restaurant on Route 24 in Edgewood.

APG pool singles championship

This eight-ball double elimination singles tournament will be held on 7 to 11 p.m., April 2, at the AA Recreation Center. Official eight-ball rules will apply. Cash prizes, based on the total number of entries, will be presented immediately following the tournament. Register by March 30. Cost is \$10.

Bowling specials

A King of the Hill Tournament will be held 1 p.m., March 27. Cost is \$8 per person. Play four games with step ladder finals. Cash prizes will be awarded.

For more information contact Dave Brewner at 410-278-4041 or -email dave.brewner@usag.apg.army.mil.

Don't forget that we are doing the bowling for bucks May 15 - June 15.

March Madness Racquetball, Handball Tournament

This tournament will be held 7 p.m., March 26 through 28, at the APG Athletic Center. This will be a single-elimination divisional tournament. Participants must register by level of ability.

All participants will receive an official March Madness Tournament T-shirt.

Trophies will be given for first and second place finishers in each division.

Outdoor Expo, April 20

Outdoor Recreation is hosting an expo 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., April 20 in front of the APG Bowling Center, building 2342. Some of the items on display will include canoes, pop-up campers, boats, Super grills, canopies, and more. There will be give-aways all day.

For more information, con-

tact Outdoor Recreation at 410-278-4124 or e-mail outdoorrecreation@usag.apg.army.mil.

Advanced Dog Obedience classes

Advanced Dog Obedience classes will be held 6:30 to 7:30 p.m., Thursdays, April 8 through May 13, in the Russell Gymnasium, building 3330.

Cost is \$60.

Instructional classes will help improve the dog's behaviors and willingness to cooperate. Learn proven methods of controlling the dog in the home and outside environment. Learn how to practice and develop advanced skills at home while training the dog to respond to them. Register by April 1.

San Antonio hotels

Deep in the heart of Texas - MWR has discounts on hotels (La Quinta Inn) and Sea World tickets for San Antonio, Texas. Hotel rooms start at just \$60 a night; Sea World tickets start at \$37.50; many other attractions are available. Prices are subject to change. Based on double occupancy, hotel availability and seasonal rates. Does not include airfare.

A taste of the Eastern Shore

Savor the scenery along the beautiful Choptank River in Hurlock, Md., on April 28, while enjoying Eastern Shore style fried chicken and crab

cake luncheon aboard the famous Dorothy and Megan Riverboat. Cost of the trip is \$45 per person and includes transportation, lunch and dinner. Register by April 1. The bus departs 8:45 a.m. and returns 6:30 p.m.

Exton Golf Course opening news

Exton Golf Course 1 reopened March 17. Hours of operation are 7 a.m. to dusk, Wednesday thru Saturday.

Starting April 1, the golf course will be open 7 a.m. to dusk, Monday thru Sunday.

Kick off the golf season on April 3 at Exton Golf Course with a shotgun start at 9 a.m. This is a four-person captain's choice scramble. Entry fee includes golf, cart, lunch and prizes. Register by April 1. Cost is \$10 for annual members and 'Value' card holders, and \$15 for all others.

The Washington Wizards vs. New York Knicks

Cheer on the Washington Wizards as they take on the New York Knicks, 7 p.m. on April 10 at the MCI Center, Washington, D.C. Cost for upper level is \$30 and lower level is \$38. Seats are limited, so pre-order today. Tickets are also available without transportation. Register by April 2. The bus leaves Aberdeen 4:30 p.m., Saturday, April 10.

LIBRARY BOOK CORNER

Operating hours of the Aberdeen Area Library, building 3320, are 1 to 5 p.m., Saturday and Sunday and 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The Edgewood Area Library is open 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Tuesday. For more information, call 410-436-3589.

The following new books are available at the APG MWR libraries:



The Lazy Person's Guide to Investing: a book for procrastinators, the financially challenged, and everyone who worries about dealing with their money by Paul Farrell.

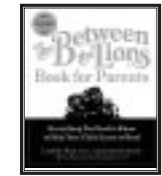
The Great Game of Politics: why we elect whom we elect by Dick Stocken

Cool Yoga Tricks by Miriam Austin

These Honored Dead: how the story of Gettysburg shaped American memory by Thomas Desjardin

Rumsfeld's War: the untold story of America's anti-terrorist commander by Rowan Scarborough

The Between the Lions Book for Parents: everything you need to know to help your child learn to read by Linda Rath



The library's website: www.apgmwr.com/recreation/libraries.html provides access to the library's online catalog and also has a complete annotated listing of the library's new material, as well as a list of available films on DVD.

Montgomery Gentry Concert coming July 17 Special ticket price for one week

The Miller Lite Army Concert Tour featuring Montgomery Gentry with special guest, Blue County is set for July 17, 6:30 p.m. on Shine Sports Field.

Tickets for the rain-or-shine event will be offered at a special sale price of \$10 for one week only, April 2 to 9.

Tickets are available at MWR Registration in building 3326, or by calling 410-278-4907/4011; or in the Edgewood Area Fitness Center, building E-4210, 410-436-7134. For more information email MWR_Registration@usag.apg.army.mil or visit the MWR Web site at: www.apgmwr.com.

Nominees for Nonappropriated Fund Employee of the Year

Administrative
Juliette Bates
Mary Brousseau
Annie Roasario
Chrintine Schachte
Mercedee Ashby

Crafts/trade
Hedy Lis
Edward Burk
William Johnson
Shelly Smith

Para-Professional
Maria Arango

Edwin Dela Cruz
Kenneth Singleton
Bane Lawson
David Crouch
Cindy Lou Selchert
Alan Hickox
Charles Heinsohn
Stacie Umbarger
Christina Lockhart

Supervisory
Gwyn Dolzine
Donna O'Hara
William Kegley

ImageMakers National Photography Contest

Aberdeen Youth Services will participate in the Boys and Girls Clubs of America ImageMakers National Photography Contest. The four age groups eligible to enter include 9 or younger, 10 to 12, 13 to 15 and 16 to 18.

Categories include color, black and white, digital, alternative and photo essay "My World." Photos must have been completed within the last year.

Participation is free and entrants must have an active CYC membership to enter the contest. To become a mem-

ber, the cost is \$15 per child annually. A scholarship competition is available for teens 16 to 18 years of age.

The deadline to submit photos for the contest is April 10.

For more information about ImageMakers and Aberdeen Youth Services' Photography Program, call Pam Jones at 410-278-4995 or visit www.apgmwr.com and click on Youth Services.

For registration in the CYC, call CYC Central Registration at 410-278-7571/7479.

Join the boat club

The Spesutie Island Boating Activity is located in the Aberdeen Area of APG, building 36. Mooring spaces cost \$11 per foot, parking lot space costs \$8 foot, and Ramp only membership costs \$7.50 per foot per boating season, March until November 2004.

Amenities include an easy access ramp and a clubhouse with screened porch with a kitchen, two bathrooms and a meeting/party room. There is also a picnic area for family and social gatherings.

Membership requirements:

Member must be the boat owner and must complete eight hours of work and stand

three security watches, 7 to 10 p.m. There is no fee to be a member; all fees are associated with the storage and services.

Membership is open to active duty military, retired military, Army National Guard, DOD civilians, retired DOD civilians, and contractors with APG ID cards. Proof of insurance is also a requirement.

Applications can be picked up at the clubhouse building 36 and at the Outdoor Recreation Office. For information or questions call Wayne Doyel, 410-278-4124 or the Outdoor Recreation Office, 410-278-4124.

APG Youth of the Year winners compete in Annapolis



Photo by NORMA WARWICK
2003 Youths of the Year Anastasia Phillips, Aberdeen Youth Services and Wyndell Williams, Edgewood Youth Services during the Maryland Boys and Girls Clubs of America Youth of the Year competition and awards ceremony in Annapolis, Md., March 10.

MWR

APG Youth of the Year winners, Anastasia Phillips from the Aberdeen Youth Center, and Wyndell Williams, Edgewood Youth Center, com-

peted in the Maryland Boys and Girls Clubs of America Youth of the Year competition and awards ceremony in Annapolis, Md. March 10.

"Competing in a field of nine outstanding candidates

from clubs in Maryland, our candidates did extremely well and received praise from the judges and staff," said Ivan Mehosky, APG School Liaison.

All candidates were recognized for their leadership and contributions to their club.

"It was great being there with the teens," said Ivan Mehosky. "You could see the delight in their eyes. They conducted themselves with character, and we all are proud of their accomplishments. The memories they took home of the experience and new friends is priceless."

The winner was Linnette Hines, from the Highlandtown Boys and Girls Club in Baltimore, and was announced at the Maryland Alliance of Boys and Girls Clubs' 5th Annual Youth of the Year Legislative Breakfast.

The featured guest speaker was Danny Spriggs, U.S. Secret Service deputy director and former Dallas Cowboys football player. Bill Ripkin, former Baltimore Orioles baseball player, spoke about the sport and character development programs that the Cal Ripken Sr. Foundation is making available to Boys and Girls Clubs.

Following the awards and recognition breakfast, teens, parents, and staff visited a session of the Maryland Legislature where they were recognized on the floor, and met Governor Robert Ehrlich at the capital building.

"All around, it was a great day, one we can continue to build upon in promoting our Youth of the Year program to APG teens," Mehosky said.

Bowling scores week of March 13

Tuesday Intramural

Men's High Game Scratch
Branden Tabbert, 209
Jim Mical, 205
Men's High Game Handicap
Dale Allen, 305
Mike Shepard, 300
Men's High Series Scratch
Brandon Dusick, 579
Donald Moore, 553
Men's High Series Handicap
Mike Shepard, 783
Gu;ermo Perez, 714
Women's High Game Scratch
Nicole Washington, 140
Linda Candelejo, 123
Women's High Game Handicap
Nicole Washington, 232
Jenniffer O'Keefe, 221
Women's High Series Scratch
Nicole Washington, 400
Linda Candelejo, 295
Women's High Series Handicap
Jenniffer O'Keefe, 639
Nicole Washington, 626

Wednesday Lunch Doubles

Men's High Game Scratch
Dan Snoha, 199
Steve Cornelison, 192

Men's High Game Handicap
Henry Schwartzman, 272
Joe South, 270
Men's High Series Scratch
Dan Snoha, 387
Steve Cornelison, 374
Men's High Series Handicap
Henry Schwartzman, 499
Dan Snoha, 478
Women's High Game Scratch
Jeanine Worthington, 192
Kathy Krout, 159
Women's High Game Handicap
Shelley Sanders, 265
Betty Taylor/Kathy Krout, 264
Women's High Series Scratch
Jeanine Worthington, 381
Kathy Krout, 367
Women's High Series Handicap
Shelley Sanders, 479
Jeanine Worthington, 471

Wednesday Mixed

Men's High Game Scratch
Tom Curtis, 222
Darryl Stewart, 207
Men's High Game Handicap
Tom Curtis, 239
Darryl Stewart, 233
Men's High Series Scratch
Tom Curtis, 557

Darryl Stewart, 521
Men's High Series Handicap
Bill Green, 609
Tom Curtis, 608
Women's High Game Scratch
Anita Harris, 230
Kathy Anderson/Barbara Winters, 189
Women's High Game Handicap
Anita Harris, 266
Carmen Aviles, 233
Women's High Series Scratch
Anita Harris, 568
Kathy Anderson, 510
Women's High Series Handicap
Anita Harris, 676
Carmen Aviles, 630

Thursday Lunch Doubles

Men's High Game Scratch
Mac McClellan, 232
Tom Puckett, 202
Men's High Game Handicap
Ken Paxton, 284
Barry Hudler, 277
Men's High Series Scratch
Mac McClellan, 408
Tom Puckett, 395
Men's High Series Handicap
Barry Hudler, 490

Mac McClellan, 484
Women's High Game Scratch
Debbie Burkins, 183
Joyce Smith, 144
Women's High Game Handicap
Debbie Burkins/Ruthann Cunningham, 254
Gina Bukowski, 240
Women's High Series Scratch
Debbie Burkins, 344
Joyce Smiht, 277
Women's High Series Handicap
Debbie Burkins, 493
Sandy Bowers, 444

Thursday National Guard

Men's High Game Scratch
Bernard Hammond, 255
Bill Morton, 214
Men's High Game Handicap
Bernard Hammond, 269
Bill Morton, 261

See complete bowling scores at APG News Online <http://www.apgnews.apg.army.mil>



Photo byYVONNE JOHNSON

This poster at APG’s Ordnance Museum illustrates the special headgear worn by Women Ordnance Workers during WWII. Other displays and photos at the museum celebrate women’s history and the work of the WOWs at APG during the 1940’s.

WOW display illustrates APG women’s history

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Women have been making a difference on Aberdeen Proving Ground for decades but never more than when they replaced male workers who went to war in the 40s.

A display in the U.S. Army Ordnance Museum highlights the accomplishment of these women, referred to as Women Ordnance Workers, or WOWs during that time.

Designed by visual information specialist Judy Garrett, the display includes photographs of

women testing firearms, gas masks, changing tires, using a riveting gun, an excerpt from the Ordnance Magazine published in the Spring of 1984 titled “A Salute to the Ordnance women of WWII,” and a mannequin dressed in the trademark red and white Ordnance scarf and skirt set.

Garrett said she used old Ordnance magazines and the Internet to research the items included in the display.

“I plan to add more to it as I come across more material,” she said, adding a recently discovered

video of women testing arms on APG may soon be included.

Along with Tim Tidwell, Garrett also designed “A Century of the U.S. Service Rifle” display in the museum that includes the M-14, Krag-Jorgensen, Enfield, Springfield, and M-16 rifles.

The U.S. Army Ordnance Museum is open 7 days a week, 9 a.m. to 4:45 p.m., and is closed on national holidays except Armed Forces Day, Independence Day, Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Lenten schedule

Protestant services

Lenten luncheon, AA Chapel Social Hall
11:30 a.m. every Wednesday through March 31

Devotions

Palm Sunday services April 4
AA Chapel, 10:15 a.m.
EA Chapel, 9:15 a.m.
Living Last Supper April 8, 7 a.m., AA Chapel
Easter Sunrise service at McBride Field April 11, 7 a.m.
Easter services April 11, 10:15 a.m., AA Chapel; 9:15 a.m. at EA Chapel.

Catholic community

Daily mass
EA and AA Chapel, 11:45 a.m.
Weekend mass schedule
AA Chapel
Saturday, 5 p.m.
Sunday, 8:45 a.m.
EA Chapel
Sunday, 10:45 a.m.
Confessions heard 30 minutes before mass; anytime by appointment
AA Chapel
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m. every Wednesday, EA Chapel
Stations of the Cross, 7 p.m. every Thursday,

Palm Sunday and Holy Week

April 4, palms distributed at all masses
EA Chapel
Tenebrae service 7 p.m., April 6, confessions heard afterwards
Solemn Holy Thursday service, 7 p.m., April 8, Good Friday service, 11:45 a.m., April 9, AA Chapel
Tenebrae service on 7 p.m., April 7; confessions heard afterwards
Good Friday Stations of the Cross, noon
Solemn Holy Saturday service, 7 p.m., April 10,

LEAVE DONATION

To participate in the Voluntary Leave Program, use forms OPM 630, Application to Become a Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program; OPF 630-A, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (within agency); and

OPM 630-B, Request to Donate Annual Leave to Leave Recipient Under the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program (outside agency). Employees leaving the program should contact Ronda McKinney, 410-278-8988, or e-mail rondamckinney@usag.apg.army.mil, to complete a termination form.

Employees eligible for donations in the Voluntary Leave Transfer Program

Juanita Carter
Marian Bellis (fracture of left tibia)
Sarah Blevins
Christina Bryant
Jane E. Calahan
Kenneth Carey
Jackie Childress
Barbara Crossley
Joseph Dugan
David Fletcher
Renee Gaffney

Janice Johnson, diabetic neuropathy
Melanie A. Hoffman (parasinusitis, fibromyalgia condition)
Richard Hoffman
Beth Kelly
Beverly King (caring for husband)
Janet Kipp
Danny Kopp (lung cancer)
Cheryl Johnson-Mathews
William B. McLean

(kidney failure)
Linda M. D. Queen
Tess Ramos (lung surgery)
Michael Reynolds
Cheryl L. Roark
Matthew Ryan
Marguerite Soper
EuniceThompson
AlisonTichenor
CharlesYoung (kidney and pancreas transplant)

The APG Forum

Real leadership: Authority without tyranny



Chaplain (Maj.) Joseph L. Di Gregorio
USAGAPG

When there is a collapse in authoritative leadership, the world cries out for its reap-

pearance. Ortega y Gasset writes, “Before long there will be heard, throughout the planet a formidable cry. It will rise like the howling of innumerable dogs to the stars. It will ask for someone or something to take command.” People want more direction. A judge in Boston, faced with a steady stream of juvenile delinquents, decided they needed discipline as well as understanding. He felt there was too much explaining away their faults. Despite howls of protests, the judge imposed productive work schedules and precise day orders for the youth. The young people are much happier, for secretly they were looking for just what

they received. Their permissive mentors were appalled. They still did not see the importance of spiritual and moral guidance for the young. But these young people are happier and doing better today. Yes, authority can become authoritarianism. In the 1930s the chaos in Italy and Germany led to Mussolini and Hitler. But the Great Depression in the United States produced a Roosevelt. The Second World War produced a Churchill. Crises can create authoritative and inspiring leaders. One doesn’t necessarily have to look to a tyrant for salvation. Harry Truman said of authority, “It is the ability to

get people to do what they don’t want to do, and like it.” For a long time we worried about the credibility of our leaders. Could we trust them to tell the truth? Now we must also worry about the capability of our authorities. Can they do the job we have entrusted to them? They tell us the truth. Can they do anything about it? What goes on at the national leadership levels is sometimes reflected much more simply at home. Loss of authority in the home will lead to the collapse of authority in the nation. The decline of moral and spiritual leadership in the home will find an echo in the oval office and in the boardrooms of busi-

ness, education and science. If we raise young people without a sense of moral and spiritual direction, why should we be surprised when they can neither lead nor obey when they take their place in the world? They become too touchy, irritable and pessimistic. The permissiveness of the home becomes the chaos of the school, the church and society. There has been too much criticism of authoritarianism and not enough defense of authority. Because there have been wicked leaders, let there be no leaders, say the critics. Where can we seek affirmation for the values we place on life? Why not turn to God and

the Scriptures, which reflect His presence. After all, shouldn’t the ‘Author of Life’ know how life ought to be lived? Christ affirmed and commended his followers. He also corrected them. He knew that spiritual and moral guidance was essential to know how life ought to be lived. Christ affirmed and commended his followers. He also corrected them. He knew that spiritual and moral guidance was essential to personal happiness. He loves us, so he is not ashamed to guide us. Obedience to Christ’s enlightened authority is the beginning of the restoration of leadership and authority in our society. God bless you.

Letter to the editor

Editor:
Following my Army career, which included a teaching assignment in the Department of Mechanics at West Point, I was fortunate to teach mathematics in Maryland for 17 years. During those years I was privileged to teach 12 outstanding young men who went on to graduate from our nation’s military academies. One of those students was Rob Baker from Aberdeen, who graduated from West Point in 1982. Early on I easily recognized “a perfect match” between Rob and West Point, and it was very clear that he was the type of individual needed by our country, West Point and the Army. Rob is achieving all of our aspirations today as he commands an Army brigade in Iraq. Many of us realize that the American public gets a distorted view of events from the media, and the negative aspects are usually

emphasized. In a recent exchange of e-mail with Col. Rob Baker, he eloquently expressed “some words of wisdom from Iraq” that all of us need to ponder for a few moments: “My brigade has been deployed to Iraq for the past 10 months. I control a pretty large area in Baghdad with close to a million citizens. The mission over here is a difficult one but it is one that is eminently achievable. As I reflect back to last April when I first entered the City of Baghdad during the ground phase and compare our progress to date, we have achieved a great deal. My brigade has another two months over here and then we rotate back after a long and hard year. The challenges that we faced have been difficult and they have been frequent, but they have never been insurmountable. Our Soldiers

and young leaders today are incredible. They are bright, they are brave, and they are very committed to winning this war on terrorism. In spite of the sacrifices that they make on a daily basis, they do not complain and they never waiver. I truly have never been prouder to serve in the United States Army than I am today! I have been very fortunate throughout my life and I thank God, my family and my friends for the success that I have found. I find it hard to imagine what my life would have looked like had I not attended West Point. The older I get and the longer I serve in the Army, I realize how much that institution, my parents and my teachers shaped my life.” John H. Hesterly Friend of West Point 202 Ferndale Road Aberdeen, MD 21001 Tel. 410-272-5598

Pay

From front page

Command. All other Army major commands and Air Force stateside employees are scheduled for pay period ending April 3. Pay period ending March 20 includes Air Force Materiel Command and Air National Guard units as well as other defense agency employees in this database. Pay Period Ending April 3 includes all other Air Force major commands, and Navy stateside employees. Pay period ending March 20 includes Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Air Systems Command, U. S. Atlantic Fleet, U. S. Marine Corps and other defense agency employees in this database. Pay period ending April 3 includes all other Navy major commands. Some personnel actions, referred to as intervening personal actions, may have been processed during this

retroactive period. If an intervening personnel action(s) has been processed for an employee during the Jan. 11 to mid/late March timeframe, the payroll system’s retroactive process will calculate and pay from Jan. 11, and stop at the date of the intervening personnel action. If there was more than one intervening action, the retroactive process will stop at the date of the first action. The responsible civilian personnel office must process pay corrections for the intervening action(s) and send them to DFAS. The payroll system will then pick up and complete the retroactive processing for the remainder of the prior pay periods. This will happen at a later date than the implementation dates set out above. It may take several months for all of the civilian personnel offices to process corrections to these intervening actions. Increases for Federal Wage System employees will be processed during the pay period in which the personnel action is received from civilian personnel offices. At this time, personnel actions for FWS employees have not yet been received.

Top 50 overlooked tax deductions

Sandi Williams
OSJA

There is less than one month until taxes are due. For anyone who has put off doing their taxes until now, here are some of the most overlooked tax deductions to consider. Of course, not every item will be applicable to one person’s situation. For further information or for free tax preparation and free electronic tax filing visit the APG Tax Center, located in building 310 or call 410-278-1208. This service is available to all active duty, retirees, and their family members.

Top 50 overlooked deductions

1. Student loan interest
2. One half of the self-employment tax paid
3. Adjustment on Form 1040 of health insurance premiums for some self-employed persons
4. Penalty on early withdrawal of savings
5. Alimony paid, but not child support
6. Medical transportation including tolls, parking, and standard mileage deduction of 13 cents per mile for visiting doctors or dentists and picking up medicine
7. Nursing home expenses that are primarily for medical care
8. Medical aids such as crutches, canes, and orthopedic shoes
9. Hearing aids, eye glasses and contact lenses
10. Hospital fees for services such as nursing, physical therapy, lab tests and x-rays
11. Equipment for disabled or handicapped individuals
12. Part of life-care fee paid to retirement home designated for medical care
13. The cost of alcohol and drug abuse treatment and certain stop-smoking treatments
14. Special school costs for mentally or physically handicapped individuals
15. Wages for nursing service
16. State income taxes owed from a prior year and paid in the tax year
17. Payment by Dec. 31 of your last quarter of estimated state taxes
18. Personal property taxes on cars, boats, etc.
19. Taxes to a foreign government
20. Mandatory contributions to state disability funds
21. Points paid on mortgage or refinancing
22. Property donated to a recognized charity
23. Cash contributions to a recognized charity
24. Mileage incurred in relation to charitable activities at 14 cents per mile
25. Casualty and theft losses in excess of \$100 and totaling more than 10 percent of adjusted gross income
26. Education expenses paid to maintain or improve job skills
27. A handicapped individual’s work-related expenses
28. Professional journals, magazines, and newspapers that are job-related
29. Cost of safe deposit box used for investments or business
30. Seeing eye dog or guard dog for business
31. Required uniforms and work clothes not suitable for street wear
32. Union dues
33. Employment agency fees or commissions
34. Home office expenses, if primary place of business
35. Job seeking expenses within present field of employment
36. New business start-up costs
37. Dues to professional organizations
38. Business gifts up to \$25 per customer or client
39. An employee’s moving expenses
40. Business expenses including travel, meals, lodging, and entertainment not reimbursed by employer
41. Cleaning and laundering services for business travel
42. Tools bought for use at your job
43. Cellular phones required for business
44. Worthless stock or securities
45. Commission to brokers or agents for sale of property or property management
46. Fees for tax preparation or advice
47. Legal fees to collect taxable income
48. Support of a non-dependent exchange student living with you
49. Services of a housekeeper, maid, or cook needed to run the home for the benefit of a qualifying dependent while at work
50. Gambling losses to the extent of winnings

SALARY TABLE 2004-DCB										
INCORPORATING THE 2.7% GENERAL SCHEDULE INCREASE AND A LOCALITY PAYMENT OF 14.63% FOR THE LOCALITY PAY AREA OF WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE, DC-MD-VA-WV (INCLUDING ST. MARYS COUNTY, MD) (Total Increase 4.42%) Effective January 2004										
Annual Rates by Grade and Step										
GRADE	STEP 1	STEP 2	STEP 3	STEP 4	STEP 5	STEP 6	STEP 7	STEP 8	STEP 9	STEP 10
GS-1	\$ 17,911	\$ 18,508	\$ 19,104	\$ 19,697	\$ 20,293	\$ 20,644	\$ 21,231	\$ 21,824	\$ 21,848	\$ 22,402
2	20,138	20,616	21,283	21,848	22,094	22,744	23,394	24,044	24,694	25,344
3	21,972	22,705	23,437	24,170	24,902	25,635	26,367	27,100	27,832	28,565
4	24,666	25,488	26,310	27,132	27,954	28,776	29,597	30,419	31,241	32,063
5	27,597	28,518	29,438	30,359	31,279	32,200	33,120	34,041	34,961	35,881
6	30,762	31,788	32,814	33,840	34,866	35,892	36,918	37,944	38,970	39,996
7	34,184	35,323	36,463	37,602	38,742	39,881	41,020	42,160	43,299	44,439
8	37,858	39,120	40,382	41,644	42,906	44,168	45,430	46,692	47,954	49,216
9	41,815	43,209	44,603	45,996	47,390	48,784	50,178	51,572	52,966	54,360
10	46,048	47,583	49,118	50,653	52,188	53,722	55,257	56,792	58,327	59,862
11	50,593	52,279	53,966	55,652	57,338	59,024	60,710	62,397	64,083	65,769
12	60,638	62,659	64,680	66,701	68,722	70,743	72,764	74,785	76,806	78,826
13	72,108	74,512	76,916	79,319	81,723	84,127	86,531	88,935	91,338	93,742
14	85,210	88,051	90,891	93,732	96,572	99,413	102,253	105,094	107,934	110,775
15	100,231	103,573	106,914	110,256	113,597	116,939	120,280	123,622	126,963	130,305

NOTE: Locality rates of pay are basic pay only for certain purposes--see "Salary Tables for 2004" cover sheet.



Hot weather canteens, canteen cups, wet weather boots, Kevlar helmets and Alice packs (ruck sacks) with frames are some of the hundreds of line items on hand for issue at Aberdeen Proving Ground's new Central Issue Facility in building 5035.

Central Issue Facility opens on APG

Story and photos by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

The first-ever Central Issue Facility for Aberdeen Proving Ground service members was officially opened for business after a March 12 ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The facility, located in building 5035, serves the U.S. Army Ordnance Center and Schools and will eventually expand to serve permanent party Soldiers as well, said DIO supply tech Patricia Mitchell, the facility's accountable property officer.

"Formerly, OC&S and other units had their own issuing facilities. All that is now combined into one," Mitchell said. "This relieves the units of time-consuming responsibilities and is an important step in taking care of our Soldiers."

Bert Scott, Director of Installation Operations, called the event a "milestone in the history of the garrison."

"Our vision was to put something together to accomplish the mission a CIF is destined to do," Scott said.

Col. Mardi U. Mark, APG Garrison and deputy installation commander, added her thanks to Scott, Mitchell and Anita Howell, chief, Supply and Warehouse Division.

"You wanted this and we got it," Mark said. "You've all done a dynamite job."

"It's always been needed here," Howell added, noting that the Installation Management Agency worked with the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command and OC&S to establish the proposal. The OC&S lateral transferred its inventory and assisted with the moves and set up of the facility.

"All units showed a definite need," Howell said.

The facility maintains \$3 million inventory in TA-50 line items that include sleeping bags, Kevlar helmets, wet weather gear, chemical

suits, canteens, ammo pouches and ponchos. The average Soldier is issued \$500 in equipment.

After the ceremony, Mitchell conducted a tour of the facility with the guests who included Brig. Gen. Lemeare, OC&S, Maj. Anissa McNeill, Headquarters Support Troop; Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Elvis Irby; Command Sgts. Maj. Neslie Etheridge, 143rd Ordnance Battalion; and Willie Williams, 16th Ordnance Battalion; and 1st Sgt. Lonzia Hawkins Jr., HST.

"APG did a fine job in getting this off the ground," Williams said. "I'm sure they'll be able to provide even better service to our Soldiers on the installation."

Etheridge noted that the centralized facility also allows for better training.

"Leaders can now train Soldiers how to maintain their equipment at any time," Etheridge said, adding that trainees used to be

issued the equipment only during their last week of training.

"They only had it for six days, and three of those were spent in the Field Training Exercise. There was never time to train," Etheridge said.

"Now, noncommissioned officers can train on tactical skills, road marches and maintenance. It wasn't realistic before. Now they can do it the right way."

Hawkins added this gives them the opportunity to train with their equipment.

"From here some of these Soldiers will head straight to Iraq," he said. "They have to be prepared."

In October 2003, the Northeast Regional Office of IMA provided DIO with \$100,000 year-end dollars for renovation of a Central Issue Facility. The renovation of building 5035 began in November and was completed by Dec. 31.

Virtual comment cards make suggestions easy

DCFA

Wouldn't it be nice to make suggestions directly to APG leaders and activity managers without having to make an appointment or go through layers of staff to reach the person in charge?

Virtual comment cards provide a great opportunity to do just that. The Department of Defense interactive customer evaluation system or ICE is designed to improve service, provide leadership with timely data on customer service and satisfaction, and to save time and money.

According to Colonel Mardi U. Mark, garrison and deputy installation commander, "The success of our well-being programs at APG depends on feedback from the community. I

encourage customers to use the ICE comment cards. If you've recently visited some of the activities, tell us about your experience. Your comments will make a difference."

Customers can use this Web-based program from any computer terminal with Internet access. The Web site <http://ice.disa.mil> can also be used to obtain general facility and program information.

Upon arriving at the Web site, click on Army CONUS, then on Aberdeen Proving Ground and you're there. The site is very easy to use and does not require much computer experience. There is an ICE link on the APG and MWR Web sites.

More than 93 APG activities are featured within 12 categories

to include communications, dining, education and training, chaplain, child and youth services, health and dental clinics, finance, personnel, recreation, safety, security, commissary, AAFES, housing, lodging, and travel. More activities will be added in the near future. Comments on activities not yet included can be made directly to the APG ICE systems administrator by following instructions posted on the Web site.

Questions about ICE should be addressed to Linda Holloway, APG Well-Being Program manager and ICE systems administrator at 410-306-4520 or e-mail her at linda.holloway@usag.apg.army.mil.

TDY, DTS changes impact travelers

Jim Carroll
USAGAPG-RM

A change to the regulatory guidance relating to travel authorizations and additional functionality added to the local Defense Travel System has the potential to directly impact all travelers.

The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee published guidance via a Civilian Travel Determination requiring all temporary duty personnel to utilize the Commercial Travel Office and the GSA contract city-pairs.

Although these requirements were previously in place, the guidance now requires that each authorization contain the following statements:

1. "The use of the Commercial Travel Office to arrange official travel is mandatory," or a statement specifically detailing the reason why the CTO is not being utilized.
2. A statement that, "If there is a GSA contract city pair fare between an official-travel origin and an official-travel destination, it should be used," unless one of the following five reasons exists. If these reasons exist they must be stated on the travel authorization. A detailed explanation must be stated if other

than contract city-pair fare is to be utilized.

- a. Space on a scheduled contract flight is not available in time to accomplish the mission, or use of the contract city-pair would cause the traveler to incur increased overnight lodging costs.
- b. The contract carrier's flight schedule is inconsistent with specific policies of individual departments and agencies.
- c. A non-contract carrier offers a lower fare than is available to the general public.
- d. The use of the fare results in a lower trip cost to the government, to include the combined cost of transportation, lodging, meals and related expenses.
- e. Rail service that is cost effective and meets mission requirements is available.
- f. Smoking is permitted in the contract flight and the non-smoking section of the aircraft is not acceptable to the traveler.

Failure to follow these new procedures may impact the traveler's reimbursement. If no justification for the non-use of the CTO or the contract city-pair is provided on the authorization, reimbursement to the traveler must be limited to the amount the government would have paid if the CTO had been utilized. This situation normal-

ly occurs when travelers change or cancel their trip and want to utilize the airline ticket on another trip.

Changes to APG system

The DTS recently added two new modules at Aberdeen Proving Ground. The organizational DTS administrators for each activity can provide specific instructions for utilizing these modules.

- DTS now provides a 'Reservation' module that enables all travelers with a Personal Government Credit card to make their airline, hotel and car rental reservations within DTS. This capability eliminates the requirement for these personnel to contact the CTO to make their reservations. Additionally, they no longer need to provide copies of their authorizations to the CTO.
- A 'Receipts' module has been added to DTS, which enables the traveler to electronically attach their hotel, car rental, etc. receipts to their voucher. This eliminates the DA requirement for the approving official to maintain a hard copy of the documentation. Although this eliminates the DA requirement for supporting documentation local policies may contain other requirements.

For more information, call 410-278-0927.

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Todd Eldredge <small>World Champion</small>	Yuka Sato <small>World Champion</small>	Jenni Meno & Todd Sand <small>World Silver Medalists</small>
		Kyoko Ina & John Zimmerman <small>World Bronze Medalists</small>

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Two APG youths make All County Band

Story and photo by
Yvonne Johnson
APG News

Two Aberdeen Proving Ground youths achieved a noteworthy accomplishment when they were selected to participate in Harford County's All-County Band.

Valerie Reese, bass clarinet player, and Abby Burnett, clarinet player, both 15-year old 10th graders at Aberdeen High School, performed with the All County Band during its annual concert, Feb. 21, at Havre de Grace High School.

Reese is the daughter of Air Force Staff Sgt. Donald and Patricia Atkinson, Det 36 TRS Metals Technology. Burnett is the daughter of Col. Donald J. and Susan Burnett, Joint Project Manager for NBC Contamination Avoidance.

They were the only APG students chosen for the honor.



They auditioned along with hundreds of other applicants and were informed of their selection by mail one week later.

"I was confident but nervous," Reese said of her audition. Selected to the band for the first time one year ago, Reese achieved first chair status for the second consecutive time.

"First chair means I got first out of all others," Reese said. "I was really hoping for that."

Burnett said she fought off her nervousness by listening to the co-applicants.

"I thought more about how everyone else was doing. That helped," she said.

They were given a folder of music to rehearse in January and had more than a month to learn it because the rehearsal was postponed due to snow.

Under the leadership of Dr.



Mark McCoy from the Shepard Music College in Pennsylvania, the band performed classical and popular pieces to a packed audience.

"He was great to work with," Burnett said.

The two agreed they plan to audition for the band again this year and that they are proud of their accomplishment.

"I'm very proud since music will be my career," Reese said. She added that she plans to major in music education or music therapy.

Burnett said the whole experience was "awesome."

"I loved being there, working with people so dedicated," she said.

She said she intends to keep playing but plans to pursue a career in mathematics or the sciences.

Left inset Abby Burnett, right inset Valerie Reese.

Call Center Quick Dial Guide

After dialing 410-278-KIRK (5475) or 866-756-5475, and listening to the welcome message, the following 'quick' codes will assist in navigating the call center options.

To make appointments
Pediatric appointment dial 1-1
Adult Medicine appointment dial 1-2
Physical Therapy appointment dial 1-3
Optometry appointment dial 1-4
Physical Exam appointment dial 1-5
Community Mental Health appointment dial 1-6
Aberdeen Area Occupational

Health Clinic appointment dial 1-7-1
Edgewood Area Occupational Health Clinic appointment dial 1-7-2
To leave a message for your provider or check on test results
Pediatrics dial 2-1
GMC 1 dial 2-2
GMC 2 dial 2-3
Troop Medical Clinic dial 2-4.
Clinic Information
For directions dial 3-1
For hours of operation dial 3-2
To renew a prescription with your provider
Pediatrics dial 4-1-1

GMC 1 dial 4-1-2
GMC 2 dial 4-1-3
Troop Medical Clinic dial 4-1-4
For a prescription refill dial 4-2
To speak to a pharmacist dial 4-3
For Tricare enrollment dial 5-1
For Tricare billing and claims dial 5-2
To speak to the patient representative dial 5-3
For Dental Clinic information dial 6-1
To speak to someone in the AA Dental Clinic dial 6-2-1
To speak to someone in the EA Dental Clinic dial 6-2-2.

Center

From front page

installation emergencies. "This benefits individuals who live greater distances," Bish said. "They can call ahead and be informed if the facility is closed.

"The peak times are between 7 and 10 a.m. and 1 and 2:30 p.m.," he said. "Making calls outside these two peak windows should minimize wait times."

Maj. Henry Jung, KUSAHC deputy commander, said the change came about due to a Department of Defense initiative to improve medical services.

"This offers us the opportunity to better serve our soldiers," Jung said.

The center consists of three separate computer consoles running at the same time, manned by operators who respond to incoming calls. The operators can view a patient's history, access clinic openings, and respond with the required appointment or information within seconds. In addition, from his office, Bish is able to monitor all activities, including tracking patient's waiting time, the number of patients waiting to talk, how long they have been waiting, the types of appointments requested and peak hours which aids in compiling productivity reports.

"This way we can determine if the system is meeting the needs of the community," Bish said.

Customers may utilize the Quick Guide directions to aid in navigating the KUSAHC call center options.

FOP

From front page

inquiry team for any future issues that will need to be discussed," said Robert Krauer, APG provost marshal, DLES.

According to Bryant, the union agreement now goes to the Department of Defense Field Advisory Service in Washington, D.C., for final legal review before the terms of the contract can go into effect.



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* '03 GMC Savana Conversion Van #3G223782 \$11,471 SAVINGS MSRP - \$43,006 Final Price - \$31,535 **With Approved GMAC Financing

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